



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Finance Committee Minutes 04-26-2003

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

8:30 AM O'Neill room, community safety building

4/26/03

ATTENDEES:

Janowitz	Feinleib*	O'Riordan*	O'Neill	Mahoney*
DeCoursey*	Connors*	Simmons*	Morrisette	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan*	
Piandes	Franclemont*	Jones*	Olsen*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning*	Tosi*	Kneeland*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Town Manager Nancy Galkowski, Police Chief Fred Ryan, Jackie Harrington, Paul Bayer

GENERAL: The impact of the House Ways & Means budget on Arlington of an additional \$100,000 reduction in state aid has been confirmed. The snow and ice expense is \$290,000, which may be covered from the Reserve Fund. Tosti provided a draft Finance Committee detailed budget.

TOWN MANAGER BUDGETS: Galkowski reviewed the approach she took to making budget reductions and then discussed each department in turn. She has tried to minimize the effect on what she called core services: Police, Fire and Public Works. The Finance Committee has a document containing her proposed reductions and the funds she would restore if the override passes. The Board of Selectmen has not voted on these proposals. Galkowski responded to a variety of questions. She received thanks from several members for the way she has addressed the deficit.

ARTICLE 16 REFUSE CONTRACT: Galkowski stated that the Town has agreed in principal to a 5-year contract with Wheelabrator, without any GAT and with fixed costs per ton. She said the rates were favorable based on a consultant's research. Details provided in Board of Selectmen Report. Members expressed skepticism about Wheelabrator's good faith. There is concern with Wheelabrator's desire to refinance some of their municipal bonds with possible Town involvement. Galkowski said that when a contract is received, it will be carefully reviewed before it is signed. DeCoursey and Deyst to work with Harrington to develop a recommended vote. VOTED to table. Unanimous.

ARTICLE 50 M SCHEDULE & NON-UNION COLAS: Galkowski provided a draft motion that would grant these employees a 3% COLA in FY03 but none in FY04. This will cost \$73,000 in FY04. These employees have agreed to a sliding-scale HMO contribution level. She was questioned on the need to grant a COLA to the M Schedule, given large increases in recent years, and she explained this was how the schedule remains competitive. VOTED \$146,000 as recommended in the draft motion. 15-1.

ARTICLE 51 ELECTED OFFICIALS COLA: VOTED to table until the Finance Committee learns whether these people accept the sliding scale HMO contribution schedule. Unanimous.

BUDGET 1 FINANCE COMMITTEE: Members agreed to a 30% stipend reduction as suggested by the General Government Subcommittee (DuBois), and no change to the Exec Sect salary. VOTED \$10,027 with stipend reduction. Unanimous

BUDGET 2 BOARD OF SELECTMEN: General Government Subcommittee (DuBois) recommended several changes including reducing the number of polling places to 8. VOTED \$292,765, as recommended. Unanimous.

BUDGET 3 TOWN MANAGER: VOTED \$274,004 as recommended by the General Government Subcommittee (DuBois). Unanimous.

BUDGET 4 PERSONNEL: VOTED \$134,685 as recommended by the Town Manager. Unanimous.

BUDGET 5 COMPTROLLER: VOTED \$158,010 as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee (Foskett). Unanimous.

BUDGET 6 TREASURER: VOTED \$530,551 as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee (Foskett). Unanimous.

BUDGET 7 POSTAGE: VOTED \$122,753 as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee (Foskett). Unanimous.

BUDGET 12 PARKING: VOTED \$70,374 as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee (Foskett). Unanimous.

BUDGET 8 ASSESSORS: VOTED \$266,375 as recommended by the Finance Subcommittee (Foskett). Unanimous.

BUDGET 9 LEGAL: VOTED \$595,857 as recommended by the Town Manager. Unanimous.

BUDGET 15 ZBA: VOTED \$19,659 as recommended by the General Government Subcommittee (Howard). Unanimous.

COMMITTEE: Meetings are planned for 4/30 before Town Meeting, 5/3 Saturday 8:30AM. . Tosti is planning to have the Finance Committee Report ready for Town Meeting on 5/7.

RESERVE FUND BALANCE \$300,000

Peter B. Howard
Secretary

Budget & Article Action Summary

Bud #	Date presented	Date of vote	\$	Vote	Art#	Date presented	Date of vote	\$	Vote/ assigned to
1	4/26	4/26	10027	Unanimous	11	2/19	2/19	bylaw chng	11-2
2	4/26	4/26	292765	Unanimous	13	2/3	2/3	support	
3	4/26	4/26	274004	Unanimous	14	2/19		no report	
4	4/26	4/26	134685	Unanimous	16	4/26		Tabled	
5	4/26	4/26	758010	Unanimous	17	2/19		no report	
6	4/26	4/26	530551	Unanimous	20	2/11	2/11	no report	Unanimous
7	4/26	4/26	122753	Unanimous	21	2/11	2/11	no report	Unanimous
8	4/26	4/26	266375	Unanimous	23				Foskett
9	4/26	4/26	595857	Unanimous	24				
10					25	2/19		no report	
11					26	3/26			
12	4/26	4/26	70374	Unanimous	27	3/26	3/26	no action	Unanimous
13					30	2/26		info request	
14					31	2/26		info request	
15	4/26	4/26	19659	Unanimous	32	2/19		no report	
16					33	2/3	postponed		
17a					34	2/3	postponed		
17b					37				
17c					38				
17d					39				
17e					41	2/5	info req'd		
17f					42	2/5	info req'd		
19	4/16				43	2/5	info req'd		
20					44	3/26	3/26	favorbl act	Unanimous
21a					45	3/26	3/26	no report	Unanimous
21b					46	3/26	3/26	no report	Unanimous
21c					47	3/26	3/26	no report	Unanimous
21d	4/2				48	3/26	3/26	no report	Unanimous

22					49	3/26	3/26	no report	Unanimous
23					50	3/26,4/26	3/26,4/26	146000	15-1
24					51	3/26,4/26	3/26,4/26	tabled	Unanimous
25					52	3/26			
26					53	3/26,4/14	4/14	favor action	Unanimous
WS					55	3/26			Du Bois
Rec	3/5				56	3/31	3/31	6747373	Unanimous
Rnk					57	3/26	3/26	no action	Unanimous
COA					59	3/31,4/14			De Courcey
YS					60	2/19,26 3/5 HumRt 3/26 CPC 3/26 Disabl	2/19,26 3/5 3/26 3/26	10%reduct 4500 0 0	Unanimous Unanimous Unanimous Unanimous
					61	2/19	2/19	no action	Unanimous
					63A	2/26,3/26	2/19	2000	8-7
					63B	2/26,3/26	2/19	5667	14-1
					63C	3/26			
					63D	2/26	2/19	0	Unanimous
					63E	2/26	2/19	3000	12-2
80					64B	3/26UnEm			
					64C	3/26Trav	3/26	1500	Unanimous
					64E	2/26	2/26	9813	Unanimous
79					65	3/26	3/26	no action	Unanimous
78	4/23	4/23	no action	Unanimous	66	3/26	3/26	no action	Unanimous
77				Olsen	67	2/5,2/11	2/11	no action	Unanimous
76	4/23			no report	68	3/17,4/14	3/17	no action	Unanimous
74	4/2				69	2/11	2/11,3/26	no action	Unanimous
73	4/23	4/23	180343	Unanimous	70	2/19	2/19	no action or \$35k w/ OR	12-2
72	3/17,4/23	3/17	15k to 35k	Unanimous	71	3/17,4/23	3/17,4/23	no action	14-1